

## **RSS Feeds**

The acronym RSS stands for **Really Simple Syndication**, and is used to describe the technology used in creating feeds.

RSS feeds provide frequently updated content published by a website. They are commonly used for news and blog websites, but are also used for distributing other types of digital content, including pictures, audio, or video. Feeds can also be used to deliver audio content (usually in MP3 format) which you can listen to on your computer or portable device. This is referred to as podcasting.

A feed can have the same content as a webpage, but it's often formatted differently. When you subscribe, Internet Explorer automatically checks the website and downloads new content so you can see what is new since you last visited the feed.

When you first view a website, Internet Explorer will search for feeds. If feeds are available, the Feeds button will change color and a sound will play.

When you visit a webpage, the Feeds button will change color, letting you know that feeds are available. Click the Feeds button, and then click the feed you want to see. If the website offers Web Slices as well, you'll see the Web Slice button. To get content automatically, you should subscribe to a feed.

## **What is a firewall?**

A firewall is software or hardware that checks information coming from the Internet or a network, and then either blocks it or allows it to pass through to your computer, depending on your firewall settings.

A firewall can help prevent hackers or malicious software (such as worms) from gaining access to your computer through a network or the Internet. A firewall can also help stop your computer from sending malicious software to other computers.

## **What is a proxy server?**

A proxy server is a computer that functions as an intermediary between a web browser (such as Internet Explorer) and the Internet. Proxy servers help improve web performance by storing a copy of frequently used WebPages. When a browser requests a webpage stored in the proxy server's collection (its cache), it's provided by the proxy server, which is faster than going to the web. Proxy servers also help improve security by filtering out some web content and malicious software.

Proxy servers are used mostly by networks in organizations and companies. Typically, people connecting to the Internet from home will not use a proxy server.

## **Content Provided through Windows Operating System User Manual**